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| | <i>First Named Inventor</i> | Cord F. STÄHLER, et. al. |
| | <i>Group Art Unit</i> | 1639 |
| | <i>Examiner Name</i> | P. Ponnaluri |
| | <i>Attorney Docket No.</i> | 2923-436 |
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Director of the United States Patent
and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated January 21, 2005, Applicants submit the following remarks and amendments.

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 14.

A new Abstract of the Disclosure is provided on a separate page attached hereto.

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